



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: KOGAN=4

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In re Application of: ) Art Unit:  
 Abraham KOGAN et al ) Examiner:  
 Appln. No.: 10/049,433 ) Washington, D.C.  
 Nationalized: February 12, 2002) Confirmation No. 3630  
 I.A. No.: PCT/IL00/00483 )  
 I.A. Date: August 8, 2000 )  
 For: REACTION CHAMBER WITH AL.. ) June 24, 2002

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified  
 application, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Delete claims 1-17 and reinsert the subject matter  
 thereof as follows:

18. (new) A method for protecting a surface at  
 one end of a reaction chamber having a longitudinal axis  
 transverse to said surface, said surface having a central  
 area close to said axis and a periphery remote from said  
 axis, the method comprising